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SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR/Germany (Soviet Zone)

DATE DISTR. 6 Nov. 1953

SUBJECT 1. [] Fraternization in the
Soviet Army

NO. OF PAGES 4 25X1

2. Miscellaneous Soviet Military and
Security InformationPLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE
ACQUIREDSUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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DATE OF IN

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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Security

4. The 1787th Dump had the task of guarding the area of the 482nd Repair Base as well as its own depot. Soviet military officers needed a pass from the control point to enter a compound, depot, or any other guarded military area. EM had to be in formation, with officer escort, to enter any military installation.

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

SECURITY INFORMATION

ARMY review completed.

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B. Fraternization

Policy and Practice, Foreign Nationals, and Counter Intelligence Agencies

1. Officially, all unit commanders, officers, and party members were supposed to report and punish officers and EM caught fraternizing. The punishment for the first offense was 10 to 20 days in the guard house. Repeated fraternization was punishable by a court-martial. Actually, the majority of the officers and EM ignored fraternization cases.
 - a. After 1951, no GOFG unit had foreign nationals in its employment because all were replaced by Soviet civilians or Soviet troops. [redacted] a few German key men who could not be replaced might still be working for some units. But as a rule, no foreign nationals would be found in military installations. 25X1
 - b. German police did not bother with fraternization, though some did report fraternization cases to the Soviet Kommandatura.
 - c. Party members usually ignored fraternization cases.
 - d. Kommandatura patrols arrested all officers and EM caught fraternizing.
 - e. MGB-MVD-OKR-SMERSH [redacted] all these agencies were as of April 1953 under one ministry and administration) arrested fraternizers. 25X1

C. Miscellaneous

1. [redacted] a GOFG order reprimanding Gen. Maj. BABADZHANIAN, CG, 2nd Gds. Mecz. Army, for poor discipline in his group because: 25X1
 - a. A colonel contracted VD
 - b. A "soldierette" (female civilian in uniform) committed suicide by hanging herself 25X1
 - c. An EM committed suicide by shooting himself

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2. [redacted] there was an average of one suicide per month in GOFG in 1950-1953. [redacted] an EM from the 4th Gds. Mecz. Army committed suicide by hanging in April 1953, while another shot himself in March 1953. 25X1

Military Intelligence Section

3. [redacted] 25X1

MVD-MGB

4. [redacted] MGB officers did not wear a distinctive uniform, but wore either civilian clothing in town or the uniform of their unit - that is, artillery, infantry, tanks - in the military compound and in Headquarter offices. 25X1
5. MGB had authority to detain Soviet Army personnel, but were not supposed to arrest them until they were ready for trial. [redacted] 25X1

Censorship

6. All mail from the 4th Gds. Mecz. Army was censored by a censorship unit of 50 to 100 civilian females in Eberswalde [redacted] 25X1
- [redacted] The unit was controlled by the MGB officers attached to the 4th Gds. Mecz. Army. All packages and mail were censored. It was prohibited to write about military matters, such as location, T/O & E, discipline, training and names of officers. The penalties for violating censorship varied according to the offense. Usually the offending lines were blackened out by the censor.

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- b. It was not permitted to use German mail facilities. No letters sent via the German mail system were ever delivered.

Photos

7. All troops could own a camera. It was prohibited to take pictures of military installations and equipment. Films were developed in German stores or in the Voyentorg (PX).

Documents Section

8. All departments of the 4th Gds. Mecz. Army Hqs. [redacted] 25X1
- [redacted] had secret document sections. These sections kept the following documents [redacted]
- a. All orders, directives and instructions from the Ministry of Armed Forces, GOFG and the 4th Gds. Mecz. Army
- b. Correspondence between the 4th Gds. Mecz. Army and its units

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- c. Accounts of supplies
- d. T/O & E charts
- e. 201 files of its officers
- f. Supply requisitions
- g. Books on training
- h. Unit orders
- i. Morning reports (strength accounts)

A lieutenant or senior lieutenant was in charge of each department Secret Documents Section, and usually had two Soviet civilian typists (female) and two NCO's as aides. Couriers were specially selected men from Hqs. Guard Co., which provided security guards and couriers for the 4th Gds. Mecz. Army. Each courier run consisted of one officer, two NCO couriers and two EM armed with PPSH SMG's. The documents were kept in German-made safes and/or steel filing cabinets of various makes and sizes. There was a special guard from 1700 to 0800 in front of each Secret Documents room. Documents were classified secret and top secret.

Civilian Clothes

9. Except for MGB personnel [redacted] never [redacted] Soviet troops in a different uniform than their own or in civilian clothes. 25X1

Foreign Broadcasts

10.

[redacted] Most of the time VOA broadcasts were jammed and were not too clear. BBC broadcasts [redacted] were clearer. The Rome program was also clear, frequency unknown. [redacted] VOA and BBC broadcasts have improved greatly since 1952. Soviet officers listened to both whenever possible, but did not discuss their opinions of them. [redacted] 25X1

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